

# Welcome From the Chief

Going to court can be scary or intimidating for anyone—especially children. Yet children go to court every day, for all sorts of reasons.

We want to make the experience of going to court easier to understand for all children. This book will tell you what happens in court: who works there, what the rules are, and how you might be involved in a case. Remember that you can always ask questions if you are in court and feel afraid or confused.



*Chief Justice  
Ronald M. George*

I hope you will enjoy this book, learn from it, and have fun with it. You can keep this book to help you remember what you want to know about going to court.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ronald M. George". The signature is fluid and cursive.

*Chief Justice Ronald M. George  
Supreme Court of California*

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Written in 1999 by the legal staff of the Office of the General Counsel, Administrative Office of the Courts, ***What's Happening in Court?*** was illustrated by San Francisco artists Andrew DeWitt and Robert Gutierrez and was produced by the dedicated staff of the AOC. The project was made possible by the generous support of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, with additional funding from the Foundation of the State Bar of California.

For additional copies or more information about the book, please call the Center for Children and the Courts at 415-865-7739 or write to the address below. An interactive version of this book is available online at [www.courtinfo.ca.gov/programs/children.htm](http://www.courtinfo.ca.gov/programs/children.htm).

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